

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 04278 081052Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 INR-07 /020 W
-----101162 081058Z /14

R 081032Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3831

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 4278

STADIS

FOR NEA/ARN DRAPER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SY, US
SUBJECT: SYRIAN JEWRY: VISIT OF SHALOM

1. SHALOM AND COMPANY ARRIVED SAFELY AND WITHOUT INCIDENT
EVENING JULY 7. TOUTAH AND GROUP FROM COMMUNITY CAME TO
AIRPORT TO MEET THEM.

2. TOUTAH TOLD DCM THAT A GROUP OF SEVEN MEXICAN JEWS,
WHO HAD ARRIVED PREVIOUS DAY, HAD HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY IN
OBTAINING SYRIAN VISAS. HAVING BEEN TOLD IN NEW YORK THAT
IT WOULD TAKE TEN DAYS TO PROCESS VISA APPLICATIONS THEY
FLEW TO ATHENS WHERE SYRIAN EMBASSY INFORMED THEM IT COULD
ONLY ISSUE VISAS TO GREEK CITIZENS. THEY THEN FLEW TO
BEIRUT AND CONTACTED TOUTAH FROM THERE. WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY
HE SAID HE HAD ARRANGED TO HAVE VISAS ISSUED THEM AT SYRIAN-
LEBANESE BORDER. COMMENT: THIS INCIDENT CONFIRMS
THAT SYRIAN VISA PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN TIGHTENED UP.

3. TOUTAH HAS ALSO CONFIRMED TO US THAT GROUP
APPLICATION HAS BEEN PRESENT TO SYRIAN AUTHORITIES
FOR THE NINE GIRLS WHO HAVE RECEIVED MARRIAGE PROPOSALS.
THE GIRLS AND THEIR FAMILIES HAVE ALSO BEEN INFORMED.

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MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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